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USSR Report

POLITICAL AND SOCIOLOGICAL AFFAIRS

No. 1221



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INTERNATIONAL

U.S. ACCUSED OF EXPORTING COUNTERREVOLUTIONS

Moscow APN DAILY REVIEW in English 5 Jan 82 pp 1-4

[Article by Spartak Beglov, Novosti political analyst: "The Worse for All, the Better for Washington"]

[Text] After Chile and Afghanistan there came Poland's turn. Washington subjected that country to unprecedented pressure in order to eliminate the social order which it finds objectionable by provoking chaos and fratricidal civil war. Nicaragua has now found herself in a very similar situation. Somewhat earlier this was the case with Angola, Mozambique and Iran, not to mention Cuba which is continuously threatened by American intervention.

Eight years ago in Chile the United States polished its method of massive destabilization of governments with the simultaneous use of external and internal (found within the country in question) levers. At that time the US reactionaries were so skilful in manipulating the trade union of Chilean truck drivers that the country's economy was in a complete mess in the course of several weeks. The Allende-led Popular Unity Government failed to take emergency measures in time. As a result, the reactionary and terrorist junta of Pinochet captured power without much effort and has since been engaged in the Washington-approved orgy of violence.

But a corresponding scenario proved to be a flop in Poland. Lessons of history do have their effect. Hence, Washington's truly hysterical reaction to the imposition of martial law by the government of Jaruzelski. Scapegoating the Soviet Union for the failure of the US scenario of "blood bath" in Poland, the White

House has betrayed yet another sinister feature of its global policies--its readiness to sacrifice the interests of the highest order--international cooperation, detente, disarmament and lasting peace--to blind emotions.

Poland is not Chile, however. To begin with, the CIA's sway in Chile a decade ago was facilitated by that country's location on the outskirts of a far-away continent. Meanwhile, Poland is a nerve centre of world politics. It is located on a social, political and military border dividing the two alliances and the two opposite social systems. Interlacing in Poland are vessels which are feeding the young organism of detente, trade and other exchanges, something, on which the destiny of peace and the economic future of Europe increasingly depend.

Having failed to make Poland a second Chile, the US has embarked on an all-out effort to tear this tissue asunder by sanctions. In so doing, Washington pays no attention to the fact that it may hit at the most vulnerable and sensitive centres in the political and economic structure of its own partners in the process.

Washington's provocation in Poland has crowned, as it were, the year-long record of the US Administration's foreign policies. This record is notable for the US failure to contribute to the solution of even one global problem. The US did not help in any way either to lessen nuclear war danger, or solve the problems of developing nations, or weaken destabilizing factors in the Western economy, or find a way out of the Middle East blind alley, or to show a more realistic approach to changes in Central America, or to achieve a settlement in the South of Africa, or establish normal relations with the socialist world.

Conversely, the Administration was trying to pour oil on the flames of each and every dangerous and complicated situation. In other words, it acted in line with the principle "the worse, the better," that is the worse for the rest of the world, the better for the United States.

The past year can well go down in the history of world relations as a year of the export of "crises made in the US," a year of the export of a "limited" nuclear war doctrine in Europe, a year of the export of the doctrine of countering "international terrorism," i.e. national-liberation movements, to El Salvador, as well as to the North and South of Africa.

This was also a year of the export of counterrevolution to Nicaragua, Poland, Afghanistan and Cuba. Besides, it was a year when the US exported its economic crisis to Western Europe (in part, by its stubborn stake on high interest rate from dollar credits) and to the developing nations, for that matter (its refusal to enter into global talks on trade, power engineering and other problems, reaffirmed in Cancun, bears this out). It was also a year of record shipments of US arms to Pakistan, as well as countries in Eastern Africa and the Arabian Peninsula. By so doing the US wanted to create crisis situations around India, Ethiopia, South Yemen and other countries. It was a year of US imperiously brazen behaviour in the Middle East. Suffice it to mention its attack on Libyan aircraft or Israel's impunity in Lebanon, the Syrian Golan Heights and in case of Iraq.

This was the general background against which Washington started using the situation in Poland and around it for fanning passions in one of the most strategically important centres of world politics.

European countries are bound to realize that this is not just another "whim" of their overseas partner. Washington is carrying out a large-scale operation. Its aim is to export in Europe artificially generated tensions and to raise political temperature there to the burning point so as to burn down the main supports of detente and mutually beneficial East-West ties and exchanges in the flames of this crisis, "made in the US."

Washington's unruly encroachments on the structure of detente and international exchanges reflect the Reagan team's specific mentality. It won't be enough just to say that the arms race

is their favourite invention (the golden rain of profits reaped by the California military and industrial complex fell on the soil on which they grew), or that militant anti-Communism is their main inspirer. They are obsessed with the desire to snub Washington's partner-rivals in the attempt to bring back the golden age of US capital's complete sway on the world market. They are compelling Japan to unreasonably boost her military spending with the sole purpose of weakening that country's competitiveness. They are going all out to push Western Europe back into the bunkers and barracks of the Cold War so as to deprive it of the opportunity to make independent decisions on security and economic matters.

On top of all that, the Reagan team are craving for alibi for the inevitable and already discernible failure in domestic affairs.

Not knowing how to create, these political "hawks" are capable of destroying anything with amazing irresponsibility. They know nothing about the price, effort and severe lessons behind the Europeans' gain of detente. By a single belligerent phrase or a single signature under the act of "sanctions" the Reagan team are ready to deprive Europeans of dozens of thousands of future jobs, to deny Europe's power industry of "second wind" and to block anything which does not fit in into Reagan's rigid line towards confrontation.

"The worse for all, the better for Washington." Only people of yesterday can reason in this way, people who are making yesterday's speeches and showing inexcusable irresponsibility before the future.

(APN, January 4. In full.)

CSO: 1812/48

INTERNATIONAL

CRITIQUE OF REAGAN'S POLICIES, IDEOLOGICAL OUTLOOK

Moscow APN DAILY REVIEW in English 15 Jan 82 pp 1-4

[Article by Spartak Beglov, Novosti Press Agency columnist: "A Year of the Reagan Administration" A 'Scenario' and Reality"]

[Text] James Reston, the patriarch of American analysts, wrote in one of his latest surveys of the present U.S. Administration's activities that Ronald Reagan had a "scenario," rather than a world policy. Clearly, Mr. Reston meant the inclination of the present American Administration to give a simplistic division of the world into "policemen and criminals" and act accordingly by "punishing" some members of the international community and "encouraging" others.

The "scenario" in line with which the American President acts is based on the film scripts of the early 50s when Ronald Reagan was completing his Hollywood career. It was a time when the cold war was at its peak, making the decisive influence on the mentality of many American politicians. The international crisis of those years stemmed from the fact that America's bosses who had made fabulous capital on World War Two wanted to tailor the world to their liking, which entered into a sharp conflict with the processes of change that had become imminent already. It was then that Washington changed over to a policy of strength and of intimidating peoples with the A-bomb, and to other methods of "rolling back socialism." In those years all American politicians had to swear allegiance to "the ideals of free enterprise" and the precepts of primitive anti-communism. The harsh lessons of history, however,

made many of them subsequently change the US foreign policy strategy by making it more realistic. This was true, in particular, of Presidents John Kennedy and Richard Nixon.

Having emerged on the main political scene in the late 70s, Ronald Reagan began speaking and acting as if the decades full of notable events and change had not passed since the cold war. This was also largely due to the efforts of his political tutors whose aggrandizement had been connected with the cold war, bellicose anti-communism and the philosophy of America's "world leadership" and who had been waiting for their new hour of triumph.

Small wonder many episodes from Reagan's scenario are just a repetition of the past which has once proved to be untenable. It is worth recalling Reagan's aim of making "a great leap forward" in the arms race in a bid to gain military superiority over the Soviet Union, accentuating the readiness of the United States to act in the spirit of the concept that a nuclear war is permissible and fightable; the lifting of all restrictions from the elements of the "free market" and its expansion outside of the United States; the active use of all the levers of interference in the internal affairs of other countries, especially socialist nations, with a view to creating maximally favourable conditions for those forces which are obsessed with the idea of restoring capitalism, and the allout encouragement of reactionary and dictatorial regimes which display readiness to be the armour-bearers for Washington in pursuance of its global strategy or its "deputy sheriffs" in the struggle against the national liberation movement.

The economic part of Reagan's scenario, so-called Reaganomics, has also entered a blind alley. The elements let loose by the Administration have only aggravated the ailment of the American economy. This is manifested by the current slump of production, the highest rate of unemployment in the last five years and recurring outbursts of panic at New York's Stock Exchange. Reagan's failure to provide the first proof of the correctness of his economic course by balancing out the Federal budget is particularly vivid: the budgetary deficit will grow by no less than 50 per cent.

Outside the United States, in line with the principle "ruin your neighbour," Washington has made West European countries reduce the influx of means into their economies and has forced them into a tighter embrace of the economic crisis, having raised the interest charge on the dollar operations. At the "north-south" summit in Cancun President Reagan made it clear to the developing countries that instead of talks on global economic problems, the United States was only interested in measures opening up fresh opportunities for the incursion of multinational monopolies into these countries.

Addressing the Foreign Affairs Council in San Francisco on New Year's eve, Secretary of State Alexander Haig said that the fundamental objective of his foreign policy was the ensurance of a favourable international atmosphere for American "aims and ideals." Judging by U.S. moves in Central America, the Middle East and southern Africa, the White House Administration has pointed its gun at precisely those peoples which are waging struggle for their rights and for the restoration of justice that has been trampled underfoot. In his speech at the Council Mr. Haig expressed the blatant hope that in Poland the economic chaos and the spread of hunger would eventually lead to the failure of the measures taken by the Polish Military Council of National Salvation. Such are the true "aims and ideals" of the American Administration with respect to Poland and other socialist countries.

The failure of the Polish part of Reagan's script has led to an outburst of irritation and impulsive actions aimed at "punishing" Poland and the USSR at that. Washington is forcing its partners to unwillingly approve of its actions, though the latter cannot but realise that Poland is just a pretext to drive them into the bunkers of the cold war and, therefore, make them act in line with the American scenario of global confrontation.

This is also realised by other countries. The Indian newspaper National Herald writes, for instance: "Clearly, it's time for the American President to stop attempts to tailor the world

according to his wishes. He would do better to consult his allies before taking any actions instead of browbeating them into an agreement with him."

The part of the Reagan scenario which provides for nuclear blackmail and which, among other things, dooms West Europeans to the role of victims in a "limited" nuclear war has entered into a no less obvious conflict with reality. This is eloquently borne out by the unprecedented scope of a powerful anti-war movement whose participants say a resolute "No" to these plans. The reaction of President Reagan to this movement is quite natural for a person whose tutors are people with a mentality formed during the cold war of the 50s. He said that like in the 50s that movement was inspired and financed by the organisations of the worldwide communist front. The alarmed Europeans justly classify this statement as an insult which demonstrates the entire measure of the new Administration's disregard for the problem of the survival of Europe and civilisation as a whole.

During his election campaign Ronald Reagan said, in the spirit of his nuclear mania, that the Soviet Union was behind all the world developments. Prof. George Kennan, one of the architects of cold war diplomacy, who critically reviewed many things thirty years later, almost every day appeals to the White House to stop looking at the world through the prism of a militarised policy, blind anti-Sovietism and obsession with the atomic arms race. There are no indications, he says, of the USSR hatching aggressive plans with respect to the United States. He stresses that he believes in the sincere intention of the Soviet Union to prevent nuclear war.

The experience of the past shows that the attempts to intimidate the USSR and speak to it in a language of power are futile. The Soviet Union conducts a consistent policy aimed at curbing the race in nuclear armaments and resolving all urgent problems through honest negotiations. This policy is the true alternative to Mr. Reagan's scenario. It has been supported by the United

Nations in a series of resolutions adopted at its current session.

Washington's consent to resume negotiations with the Soviet Union on the limitation of nuclear weapons in Europe has been classified in the world as an indication that the sproutings of the interest in a dialogue have appeared on American soil. If these sproutings are not destroyed by a political icy cold in Washington and if Washington displays goodwill and assumes a constructive stand, world politics will have a chance to avoid a second cold war.

(APN, Jan.11. In full.)

CSO: 1812/48

INTERNATIONAL

U.S., PRC RAISE TENSIONS IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

Moscow APN DAILY REVIEW in English 14 Jan 82 pp 1-3

[Article by Stanislav Modenov: "Who is Raising Tensions"]

[Text] The South-Eastern tip of the giant Asian mainland has been one of this planet's "flash-points" for years. Washington's Vietnam venture and Peking's aggression against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam would seem to have long been things of the past. Yet the tension in the region is still persisting. It is being whipped up by China and the United States. All progress towards stabilising the situation in South-East Asia is contrary to their supremacy-seeking ambitions.

There are some reasons behind this line of Washington. American monopolies have been out to get that very rich market of raw materials and food as well as outlet for their own manufactured goods. Suffice it to note that the United States is meeting 90 per cent of its demand for natural rubber and 72 per cent of its demand for tin through supplies from this region. What attracts the Pentagon is the extremely advantageous strategic position of this region lying at a junction of the Pacific and Indian Oceans.

Peking, in turn, is known to have always claimed to pursue "special interests" and to be entitled to "special rights" in South-East Asia. China has territorial claims practically to all the countries of the region, having designated them as "lost Chinese territories" on its maps. Peking hegemonists are calling even the South China Sea an "inland sea of the PRC".

Both Washington and Peking dream of bringing the whole of South-East Asia under their control. They are exercising unending pressure on the ASEAN nations - Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia and the Philippines in the hope of pushing them into a confrontation with the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, the People's Republic of Kampuchea and the Lao People's Democratic Republic. To cover up their own unseemly acts, the US and China have been circulating a story of their own fabrication about a threat from Vietnam. They are using this as an excuse to urge the ASEAN countries to commit themselves to an arms build-up.

By using a set of various pressure tactics, ranging from outright flattery to direct intimidation - the Washington administration and the Peking leadership have succeeded in drawing the ruling circles of some ASEAN states into their dangerous game. Their collaboration with Peking and Washington can hardly be reconciled with the ASEAN's officially declared objective of making South-East Asia a zone of peace and stability.

The Peking and Washington secret services have turned the Thailand-Kampuchea border into a frontier of an "undeclared war." Secret bases to train and arm Pol Pot's thugs have been set up in Thailand with its government's connivance. Bands of mercenaries are systematically trying to cross into the territory of the People's Republic of Kampuchea.

Peking and Washington are still stubbornly trading on a non-existent "Kampuchean problem." They have never desisted from their attempts at setting up a "united" front of Kampuchean counter-revolution headed by such despicable American and Chinese puppets as Sihanouk, Son Sann and Khieu Samphan.

Chinese planes intrude into Vietnam's air space almost every day, while Chinese warships just as incessantly invade its territorial waters. China continues to hold the illegally seized slices of Vietnamese soil in the hope of turning them into a bridgehead for further aggression. Unending armed inroads and threats "to teach a new lesson" compel the sister nations to

divert considerable resources to strengthening their defence capability and upgrading their armed forces.

The Vietnamese, Kampuchean and Lao peoples, engaged as they are in constructive work, have a vital stake in peace and good relations with their neighbours. The very nature of people's rule established in these countries precludes them from showing any hostility, and their foreign policy is a policy of peace and security in the region. Their constructive initiatives offer conclusive evidence of the interest the nations of Indochina have in creating a good-neighbour climate.

Back in July 1980, Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea called on the ASEAN nations to conclude treaties of non-aggression and peaceful coexistence. That was followed somewhat later by a number of other constructive initiatives which were carried forward in the memorandum of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Laos distributed at the UN in September 1981. It proposed, in particular, setting up a standing body to arrange for a dialogue and consultations between two groups of nations - those of Indochina and the ASEAN.

The Soviet Union and other socialist countries have always been at one with those three heroic nations of Indochina, whether in the hard times of war ordeal or now that they are working for a healthier climate in South-East Asia, while upholding their own independence and sovereignty. The latest indication has been the consultative working meeting of the Deputy Foreign Ministers of Laos, Vietnam, Kampuchea, Bulgaria, Hungary, the German Democratic Republic, Mongolia, Cuba, Poland, the Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia in Vientiane on December 18-19, 1981. Its participants, having reaffirmed their full support for the efforts of the three Indochina countries towards establishing peace and stability, stressed that the nations of the region must themselves reach agreement on all regional problems. It was declared that all issues concerning Kampuchea could be settled only by the Kampuchean people and their legitimate representative - the government of the People's Republic of Kampuchea.

(Sovetskaya Rossia. January 14. Abridged.)

INTERNATIONAL

USSR HELPS AFRICAN COUNTRIES DEVELOP NATURAL RESOURCES

Moscow APN DAILY REVIEW in English 19 Jan 82 pp 1-4

[Article by Yu. Doletov: "African Oil"]

[Text] Africa is the third largest oil producer in the non-socialist part of the world. Geologists have found much oil in Algeria, Angola, Gabon, Egypt, Zaire, Libya, Nigeria, the People's Republic of the Congo, and Tunisia. Oil has also been discovered in Guinea, Ghana, the Republic of Benin, Ivory Coast, Chad, Cameroun, Sudan, and other African countries. In 1979 alone the number of operating oil wells in Africa increased by 210.

Geologists are looking for oil in the off-shore zones and (hinterland areas of 31 African countries. Oil discoveries are reported every month. These discoveries show that Africa accounts for over ten per cent of the proven oil resources of the developed capitalist and developing countries -- nearly 7,000 million tons. The term proven resources covers the amount of oil which can be extracted by the methods now in use, provided that its production will be non-deficient at today's prices.

The organisation of oil production in Africa proceeded in a situation characterised by the African countries' strong economic and political dependence on the imperialist states. Thus, Algeria was a colony of France, Nigeria, a colony of Britain, and Libya, a formally independent nation, was a raw materials appendage to the world capitalist economy. That was why the foreign monopolies usurped the right to develop oil resources and build infrastructure to suit their selfish interests.

In the early independence years of the emergent states, the Western companies, knowing that the African countries lacked experience and personnel, concealed oil exploration data and tried to monopolise the transportation, processing and marketing of oil. Because of the plunderous concession agreements the monopolies imposed upon African countries, they received an insignificant proportion of incomes from their oil. On the average, their treasuries received some 74 cents from the eleven dollars which made the average price of a barrel (159 litres) in the 1960s.

Apart from that, the Western monopolies hindered in every way African countries' efforts to use natural resources to promote their national interests. In many cases, oil extraction gives rise to associated industries -- oil processing, gas, mineral fertilizers, etc. With few exceptions, Western monopolies did nothing in Africa to promote the development of these industries, alleging that oil extraction was the sole sphere of their operations.

After achieving political independence African countries entered another difficult period in their development -- the drive for economic independence. At this stage the main aim of the African countries to get rid as soon as possible from the domination of foreign capital which has become firmly enrooted in the continent. A major step towards this goal is the struggle of African countries for the right to use their natural resources, oil included, in national interests. Algeria was the first African country to start a successful struggle against the oil monopolies. The Algerian government nationalised most of the property of the foreign oil companies and transferred it to the state corporation SONATRAC. Under the law on oil, adopted on April 12, 1972, foreign firms may be invited to the development of oil in Algeria and may function there only as junior partners.

Africa uses up to 60 mln tons of oil products a year. Over half of this amount comes from elsewhere, particularly, to countries which have no oil fields of their own. The sale of oil and oil products is controlled by Western companies there. These companies

react to price rises by oil exporting countries by immediately increasing the prices of their products. As a result, African countries which import oil and oil products suffer big losses and show great concern over the growth of prices.

Some emergent states became OPEC members (Algeria, Libya, Nigeria and Gabon). This is important for promoting their independent oil policies.

The actions of African countries towards ousting foreign capital encounter frenzied resistance on the part of Western monopolies which do not want to reconcile themselves with the changes taking place on the continent. In reply to the nationalisation of a subsidiary of British Petroleum by the Libyan government, the oil cartel immediately blocked the sale of Libyan oil from its concessions in the country on external markets. At present, having launched an unprecedented campaign against Libya, Washington has recalled 1,500 American experts, who worked on contract at the oil-fields, from that country. The United States has announced plans for discontinuing Libyan oil purchases.

In Nigeria, the Western corporations have reduced the number of derricks for prospecting for oil deposits from 27 to 16.

The governments of African countries are aware that complete liberation from foreign dependence can be achieved only by training their own cadres of oil-industry workers, by developing their own oil-extraction, oil-refining and petrochemical industries, and by building up their own fleet of tankers. In short, through the mastering of the entire oil-industry cycle--from sinking wells to the construction of filling stations.

The striving of young states to place their natural resources at the service of the national interests meets with the Soviet Union's understanding and support. The USSR has rendered large-scale assistance to Algeria in setting up the state sector in the oil industry by supplying SONATRACH with equipment for drilling oil wells. A group of Soviet experts has taken part in specifying Libya's oil reserves.

In Nigeria, Soviet experts, jointly with the local oil-industry workers, are busy erecting new drilling rigs. In 1980, the 800-kilometre Warri-Ikorodu-Ilorin oil pipeline built in that country with Soviet assistance was put in operation.

Much attention is given to the training of cadres of their own specialists in the newly-independent countries. For example, the USSR has assisted Algeria in setting up an institute and a specialised secondary school, and to Nigeria in establishing an institute. These institutions have already trained many specialists for the oil and gas industries in those countries.

Africa is emerging as a major centre of oil production. This process takes place in the period of important political, economic and social transformations in the independent African countries. The initial achievements on this road instil hope in them that their oil and other mineral resources will be used in the interests of national development.

(Pravda, January 18. Abridged.)

CSO: 1812/48

INTERNATIONAL

WEST'S ECONOMIC CRISIS DESCRIBED

Moscow APN DAILY REVIEW in English 14 Jan 82 pp 1-6

[Article by S. Menshikov, doctor of science (economics): "Capitalist Economy: Crisis Continues"]

[Text] A year ago the Western business press was full of optimistic forecasts. Nearly all bourgeois economists alleged that the bulk of the recession which started in some countries in 1979 was already behind. They consoled themselves by saying that the current recession was less profound and protracted than the 1973-1975 crisis.

However, as the world entered 1982 it became clear that the evaluations of the current state of the capitalist economy are not optimistic and that short-term forecasts are not cheerful. In 1981, as preliminary data show, the national product and industrial output of the developed capitalist countries grew by less than a per cent. General stagnation has been persisting for the second year now.

General indices cover up dramatic events in the main bastions of capitalism. After a fall in 1980, production in the United States grew, but it failed to regain the pre-crisis level and a fall resumed in the summer of 1981. It is believed that the recession will continue for at least another half a year. Whereas earlier the public was promised a growth of four per cent or more, today Administration officials limit themselves to more modest two or even one per cent.

In the past two years in Britain industrial output has gone down by 12 per cent. Although the British officials allege that

the worst is behind and that the economy has passed the low crisis point, industrial production remains on a lower level than in 1973. Britain has not lived through such a long period of stagnation since the Great Depression.

In West Germany the indicator of real economic growth stands below zero too. Like in the United States, in West Germany production fell in two waves. For the current year economists promise only a cosmetic growth of only 0.5 per cent.

In Italy and France, industrial output has fallen by about four per cent. A cut in production was registered in Belgium and other countries as well. Growth rates have also fallen in Japan, although it has managed to avoid a recession thanks to overseas commercial expansionism.

The stagnation of such a long duration is something new in the capitalist economy of the past few decades. This time the recession is not very profound. However, the signs of a cyclic revival and a boom are absent. The worst hit are consumer durables, housing and associated industries, which, contrary to the expectations of economists, do not show any signs of emerging from the crisis.

The growth of production is continued to be hindered by inflation which has reduced the real incomes of the working people in many countries. Besides, in 1981 stagnation revealed a number of new features. Bank rates reached an unprecedented high of 15-20 per cent and adversely affected consumer credit and the financial position of industrial corporations. Thus, in the United States the ratio of the liabilities of industrial firms to net worth has reached an all-time high since the war. Interest payments on credits claim a sizable proportion of the industrial profits. Industrialists fear that a new recession can generate a tide of bankruptcies of big companies. That is why the investment programmes are being regularly reduced and the volume of incomplete construction is growing. In Britain massive bankruptcies are a feature of the day.

Another new element of stagflation is the negative effect of the budgetary deficits which have reached record levels in all major capitalist countries. At one time Keynesians regarded budgetary deficits as a cure-all from crises. Today the deficits are considered a disaster because they put the state before the insoluble dilemma of either patching up the holes in the treasury by issuing new paper and credit money and thus promoting inflation, or of limiting the growth of the stock of money in circulation and of making credit dearer, which hinders production and provokes a new recession. Last but not least, economic instability is growing due to dramatic jumps in exchange rates.

Today even bourgeois experts fear that the dragged-out stagnation can turn into another profound crisis. The noted US economist Lester Thurow wrote recently that something more formidable than a moderate recession was imminent and that the economy was threatened with a repetition of the 1974-1975 catastrophe. The almost eight years which have passed since the beginning of the 1973-1975 crisis are a period long enough for the formation of the prerequisites for a new cyclic recession. It is premature to speak about the specific fear features of such a crisis, but the growing contradictions of capitalist reproduction show that this drama is not excluded.

The protracted downturn exacerbated the trade and economic war among major capitalist nations, hindering attempts at concerted action to cure their economic malaise. Western Europe and the United States took more rigid protectionist steps against the penetration of Japanese monopolies. The US government demanded that Japan reduce its custom duties on imported goods from America, so as to cut the latter's enormous trade deficit with its Far Eastern partner. Premier of Japan Zenko Suzuki refused.

The working masses of the capitalist countries were the worst hit by the drawn-out crisis. Even stagnant production,

let alone curtailments, inevitably leads to the growth of the army of unemployed. To check the rise in unemployment, it is necessary that output should grow at least accompanied by higher labour productivity. But in reality this does not occur. By the end of the year the number of fully unemployed (according to official data) reached 9.5 million in the USA; in Britain 3 million, in Italy and France 2 million each, in the Federal Republic of Germany 1.7 million and in Japan 1.2 million. Over the past year total unemployment in the six capitalist states went up by almost 25 per cent. The number of unemployed is now 50 per cent higher than in 1975, that is, at the height of the deep economic crisis, and continues to grow.

Despite the fall in world market prices on fuel and raw materials and the attempts by official propaganda to play down the growth in the cost of living, retail prices in the capitalist countries continued to rise with a terrifying force. Inflation in the United States in the past year constituted over 10 per cent, in Britain it reached 12 per cent, in France 14 per cent and in Italy exceeded 20 per cent.

The past year was a turning point in the dynamics of real wages. Whereas in previous years wages at times grew faster than inflation, now the rise in prices in Western Europe everywhere outruns that of nominal pay rates. As for the United States, working people's real incomes (in absolute terms) have been dwindling there for several years now.

Not content with the operation of the economic mechanism of capitalist accumulation, the monopolies and bourgeois states carried on a direct onslaught on the gains and rights of the working people. The US administration put forward and got an economic program through Congress that envisages cuts in allocations for social needs. At the same time, it "solicitously" reduced the taxes on wealthy families and big business. Even officials have had to concede that this program pursues the aim

of redistributing income in favour of the rich. Meanwhile the Conservative government in Britain announced its intention to prune various social programs still further and slash grants to the system of education and nationalised industry.

Even in the FRG, where the Social Democrats head the government coalition, a group of experts was commissioned to work out a program under which the taxes on profits must be cut while the growth of wages must lag behind that of prices for several years.

Only in France the government of left forces has been insisting on reforms aimed at the development of the economy and the alleviation of the lot of the working people. But its program of reforms, including the nationalisation of a number of monopolies, meets with strong opposition from rightwing political forces.

The resentment of the masses against the continuing crisis and the reactionary policy of ruling circles shows itself ever more openly even in countries where very conservative elements stand at the head of the trade union movement. Thus, in September 1981 in the USA the leadership of the AFL-CIO was forced to sanction a mass protest demonstration against the anti-people line of the new administration.

The times are gone when the military-industrial complex could befool the masses with its talk about the beneficial role of the arms race. Now millions correctly perceive the excessive military expenditures and the related budget deficits as one of the main causes of stagnant production, inflation, unemployment and attempts to take away social gains from the working people. This additionally spurs them to act in the ranks of the antiwar movement.

Western arms spending has reached unprecedented dimensions. Under the pressure of the military-industrial complex, most of the spheres of economic activity of leading capitalist states have been reoriented accordingly. Arms production has become a permanent and heavy burden for the Western economy, aggravat-

ing its crisis phenomena.

In spite of the attempts to conceal the huge profits of the monopolies fattening on the arms race even at the height of the economic recession, the facts of this enrichment are becoming known to the public. Thus, for example, while the after-tax profits of all US corporations on the average fell as compared with 1980, those of the corporations producing MX missiles, Pershings-2, the B-1 bomber, cruise missiles and other weapons of mass destruction again increased.

The lingering crisis in the bastions of capitalism also hit painfully the developing countries. Production slump led to a fall in the demand for oil and raw materials, bringing down the export earnings of many newly independent states. Some of them tried to expand their sales of food and manufactured goods. But these efforts too ran into protectionist custom barriers and the limited effective demand in developed capitalist nations. As a result, the export of manufactured goods from the developing countries is at a standstill, while the world prices of sugar, coffee, cocoa beans and other foodstuffs fell sharply as compared with 1980.

The continuing crisis of the capitalist economy eloquently attests to the sharpening of internal contradictions of the system based on the exploitation of man by man, as well as to its inability to solve the urgent problems facing mankind.

(Pravda, Jan. 14. In full.)

INTERNATIONAL

TURKMENS DENOUNCE 'RADIO LIBERTY' EDITOR

[Editorial Report] Ashkhabad SOVET TURKMENISTANY in Turkmen 30 September 1981 pp 3-4 carries a 3,400-word article by Seyitnyyaz Ataev, writer and chairman of the Ashkhabad section of the Soviet War Veterans' Committee, denouncing Myrat Tachmyrat, chief editor of the Turkmen program of Radio Liberty, for working in the American interest. The article is biographical.

CSO: 1834/1025

KAZAKH HISTORICAL CONNECTIONS WITH EGYPT

[Editorial Report] Alma-Ata QAZAQ ADEBIETI in Kazakh 18 December 1981 carries on page 13, under the regular rubric "Journey Into the Past," an 800-word article by Ghalyn Akmedov entitled "Kifjaq in Egypt." Akmedov's article is concerned with a recent work by the Egyptian Amin al-Khali devoted to the Mamluq dynasty of Egypt (founded 1260) that stresses the importance of a Kifjaq, i.e. Turkic-speaking element among them and of the connections maintained by the Egyptian Mamluqs with the Kazakh steppe. As a consequence a Turkic culture of sorts, including many Turkic literary and cultural figures, flourished in Egypt. Akmedov, noting Amin al-Khali's frequent references to still existing archival materials relating to the Mamluqs, calls for closer study of this Egyptian Turkic culture by Kazakh scholars both in its own terms and in terms of the light that it will shed upon the history of the Kazakhs themselves. The time has come, the author concludes, to look beyond the limited and all but exhausted Kazakh resources in studying the Kazakh past.

9857

CSO: 1832/1083

KAZAKH STRESSES ISLAMIC CULTURAL TIES WITH MIDDLE EAST

[Editorial Report] Alma-Ata ZHULDYZ in Kazakh No 11, November 1981 carries on pages 187-194 a 3,700-word article by Rakhmanqul Berdibaev on Kazakhstan's historical connections with the Islamic culture of the Middle East and present relations with the Syrian Arab Republic. Cultural relations between the peoples of Kazakhstan and Central Asia and the peoples of the Arabic world go back to ancient times. This closeness in relations was reflected in the use of the Arabic script by the Kazakhs in schools and for literature and for whom knowledge

of this script signified learning and culture. Moreover, with the Arabic script came Arabic literature (e.g. "The Thousand and One Nights"), literary forms and conventions while Kazakh writers of the past came to identify with the culture of the Islamic world of the Middle East, some even living most of their lives there and making major contributions to a common Islamic culture.

The author attacks those who deny the importance of the Arabic script for the Kazakhs and of the Kazakh literature written in it and stresses the importance of the many technical and nontechnical loan words in Kazakh from Arabic. A people need not necessarily have, he says, its own script to be literate while the borrowing of words from other languages is an important and desirable linguistic phenomenon. After all, he continues, has not the Russian language itself borrowed from the Turkic peoples just as they have borrowed from the Islamic world. Moreover, Berdibaev goes on, the past connections of Kazakhstan with the Arabs through the Arabic script and Islamic culture are of the utmost importance in terms of present Soviet policy and interest in the Middle East.

Parts two and three of the article deal with the author's own visit to Syria as part of a friendship delegation and the present position of Syria within the Arabic world. The author stresses there the role of the Western Powers as breakers of Arabic unity in contrast to the role of the Soviet Union and its peoples who maintain solidarity and friendship with the Arabic world.

9857

CSO: 1832/1081

NATIONAL

NEW NEED TO COMBAT CHRISTIAN SECTARIANS DESCRIBED

Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 9 Jan 82 p 2

[Review by R. Yarotskiy, candidate of philosophical sciences, of book "Khristianskoye Sektantstvo i Problemy Ateisticheskoy Raboty" [Christian Sectarianism and Problems of Atheism Work] by E. G. Filimonov, Politizdat Ukrainy, Kiev, 1981]

[Text] The propagandists of scientific atheism have long awaited a book such as this. It seems to me that religious believers will find it useful to read also. The evolution of Christian sectarianism under conditions of socialism, the characteristics of the manifestation of the crisis in sectarian associations, questions of overcoming sectarian religiousness, and summarizing the experience of party and public organizations with indoctrination work among sectarian believers — these and other important problems are treated in the book "Christian Sectarianism and Problems of Atheism Work."

The book employs rich historical and concrete sociological material. The author focuses attention on disclosing the causes and consequences of Christian sectarianism and the characteristics of its manifestation under conditions of a developed socialist society.

As the author notes, the crisis of religious sectarianism, which stems from general socioeconomic, social-cultural, and ideological factors, has its own distinctive characteristics in socialist conditions. The degree and depth of the process of secularization (that is, emancipation from religion) of the consciousness, psychology, behavior, and way of life of sectarians is determined largely by the character of the faith, the historical traditions and activism of sectarian communities, and other factors. This process occurs in different ways among the Baptists, 7th Day Adventists, "Pyatidesyatniki" [translation unknown; literally "members of the 50"], Jehovah's Witnesses, and other sects.

All these things give the evolution of sectarianism a complex and contradictory character. Thus, the sects of Orthodox origin (Christ believers, various schools of Molokane, Dukhobory, Subbotniki, Iyegovisty-Il'inty, and others) have essentially died out or are in their final stage of disappearance. But Protestant sects (imported into our country from the West during prerevolutionary times or during World War II) have to some degree adapted to the conditions of socialism and have shown more flexibility in the survival process.

Therefore, as the monograph under review shows, we cannot represent the evolution of religious sectarianism in socialist society as a smooth, declining curve. Temporary upsurges of religious sectarianism during particular periods and growth in the number of associations and members are possible. In this connection the author draws important conclusions while tracing the process of secularization of the consciousness and behavior of believers as an indicator of the spiritual crisis of Christian sectarianism. He essentially reveals the new type of contemporary sectarian believer.

Social and scientific-technical progress, growth in education and culture, and the development of the mass information media could not fail to affect the consciousness of sectarians, especially the new generations of believers who have grown up in socialist conditions, studied in Soviet schools, and now work at socialist enterprises, kolkhozes, sovkhozes, and other institutions. At the present time, there is emerging among the Baptists, Seventh Day Adventists, and Jehovah's Witnesses a type of believer with a new attitude toward scientific, technical, and cultural achievements, one that conflicts with traditional sectarian norms and wishes and with the cult of sectarian isolation from the world around. Of course, the modernism and adaptation cause, on the one hand, a crisis in the traditional sectarian complex, organizational schisms, and ideological ferment in the communities; on the other hand, they make atheism work with this group of believers more difficult. It requires thorough preparation by atheism cadres.

The book has an important section which analyzes the causes and forms of manifestation of the crisis of sectarianism that is occurring within religious organizations. It finds expression above all in a constriction of the channels through which sectarian religions reproduce themselves, in a decrease in the absolute and relative number of believers and the disintegration of associations (chiefly rural ones), in a qualitative change in the social-demographic structure of the composition of sectarian communes, and in significant departures of cult workers.

The chief source from which sectarian organizations have been replenished still remains the religious family, which the sectarian ideology has begun to view as the "church at home." The leaders of the Christian sects devote great attention to the religious indoctrination of children from religious families, using various means of moral and organizational pressure to pursue far-reaching goals: insuring the future of religion.

But neither the growing activity of the leaders of sectarian communities nor the efforts of certain religious parents to indoctrinate their children in the religious spirit can preserve for the religious family the function of reproducing sectarian communities on their former level.

Particular attention is devoted to the problem of the religious family, children, and the school. This is the area of ideological indoctrination work whose effectiveness has the most direct impact on deepening the crisis of sectarianism and shaping the new type of human being.

The author devotes a special section of the book to analyzing the social and ideological essence of religious extremism in sectarianism. Revealing this phenomenon primarily as an endeavor by cult workers and the leaders of sectarian organizations to surmount the crisis of religion by means of extreme actions leading to violation of Soviet laws, the author discloses the close relationship between the intensification of extremist actions and the intensification of ideological struggle in the current phase. Imperialist propagandist centers are providing moral and material support to religious extremists and incite them to illegal actions.

The reader has an opportunity to learn that religious extremism is a specific holdover from petty bourgeois individualistic psychology and ideology clothed in religious forms. It is not accidental, therefore, that many of the religious extremists are persons with shady pasts, unprincipled people who are dissatisfied with the Soviet way of life, have been in trouble with the agencies of Soviet power for long periods of time, and use their religion to cover up anti-social views and actions.

Many believers are beginning to realize that their extremist-minded leaders have little concern for the interests of the religious communities. This leads to splits and differentiation in the ranks of the extremist sectarian groups. A significant number of believers who formerly followed the extremists blindly are breaking with them and returning to the path of observing Soviet laws.

The tendency for rural sectarian communities to decline and wither away and the adaptation of sectarianism to urbanized conditions are viewed in the context of the objective social-demographic processes of our day.

Under conditions of the socialist city, the author concludes, the evolution of sectarian religion is determined by two opposite tendencies: the intensive process of secularization characteristic of the socialist city, and efforts to step up the activity of sectarian organizations to use traditional channels — the religious family, the community, and the small group — to lessen the influence of secularizing factors, overcome the crisis, and insure that sectarian religion continues on the new basis.

This makes the recommendations proposed by the author for overcoming religious sectarianism especially significant. Summarizing the experience of atheistic indoctrination accumulated in party organizations of the republic and different parts of the country, the author substantiates the need for a comprehensive approach to ideological indoctrination and atheism work among sectarians and raising the level of party guidance in this important sector of ideological activity.

11,176
CSO: 1800/215

REGIONAL

COMMON ROOTS, UNITY AFFIRMED

Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 14 Jan 82 p 2

[Article by N. Kotlyar, doctor of historical sciences: "From a Single Root"]

[Excerpts] Twelve centuries ago a large and mighty state arose on the vast spaces of Eastern Europe, known to the world as Rus' or the Russian Land. The center of this state became Kiev, whose 1,500th anniversary we will soon celebrate. Karl Marx ranked Rus' alongside the Byzantine Empire and the Kingdom of the Franks.

Kievan Rus'. When we turn to this majestic stage in our history, we see before us the ancient Russian people in all their majesty. Drawing ever closer together, they created their language, their material and spiritual culture and their own statehood. They increasingly developed a common economic life together with their common language, territory, culture, consciousness and psychology.

Kievan Rus' could measure its strength against haughty Byzantium. Diplomats from Kiev were received with honor in the palaces of Rome, Paris, London and Krakow. The royal families throughout Europe dreamed of making marriages with the house of Yaroslav.

"It was from this, from Kievan Rus', that the three fraternal peoples take their origins. The history of the ancient Russian state," wrote outstanding historian Academician B. D. Grekov, "is the history of a state which gave the Ukraine, Belorussia, and Great Russia an opportunity to mature and grow. This is the reason for the enormous importance of this period in the life of our country."

The political unity of the Kievan state began to break down in the 1130's. It entered the period of feudal fragmentation.

Soviet science rejects the erroneous view typical of representatives of bourgeois, in particular bourgeois-nationalist, historiography that this period was a time of regression and breakdown of all ties among the Eastern Slavic lands. Study of the numerous sources, documents and artifacts leads to the conclusion that the ancient Russian state was not a unified state only from the 9th Century to the first third of the 12th century, but also that it remained such during

the period of feudal fragmentation, when merging processes continued to grow and were only stopped with force by the invasion of Batyr's armies.

Even during the conditions of appanage ["udel"] Russia, which led to the formation of feudal estates and principalities and to marked political isolation of them, other processes continued and went into force: a deepening division of labor and development of economic-cultural ties. These processes promoted consolidation of the country and supported the general yearning of the masses of people for unification of the separate lands into a centralized state. Thus, while the principalities and estates of 12th Century Russia had a certain independence, this did not preclude a number of elements of statewide unity and a yearning by progressive people for unity. This interaction of, at first glance, contradictory processes was the dialectic of social and state development of Ancient Rus' in the age of feudal fragmentation. Developed feudalism brought a different form of state, the federated state, which was appropriate to the level of productive forces achieved at that time and the economic growth of formerly backward frontiers of the Russian land.

In evaluating the political and ideological trends and currents of Russian life of that time, the statement that the struggle among the different principalities for their own particular plan to consolidate Rus' did not produce stable results and generally promoted further feudal fragmentation does not change anything. We emphasize another, more important circumstance: In the second half of the 13th Century and the early 14th Century, despite the fact that Rus' was politically dependent on the Golden Horde of the Khans, the unifying centers of Northeastern, Southwestern and Western Rus' continued to exist and gradually gathered strength.

The territories of the Russian, Ukrainian and Belorussian peoples took shape in the 13th-16th centuries. The territorial basis for formation of the Ukrainian nation was the lands of Kiev, Pereyaslav', Chernigov-Siverskiy, Volyn', Galitsa and Podol'ye, as well as Bukovina and the Transcarpathian region. The ethnic nucleus of the future Ukrainian people formed in the Middle Dnepr region, at Kiev, and settlement of the other South Russian lands centered around it. It was not accidental that the name "Ukraina" [the Ukraine] was given to the middle Dnepr region earlier than to other parts of Southern Rus'. In time (in the 17th Century) this became the name for the ethnic territory of the Ukrainian people. The Ukrainian nation took shape at the same time as the Russian and Belorussian and had ties and mutual influences with them.

The Russian nation formed in the lands of Rustov-Suzdal', Murom-Ryazan', Novgorod and Pskov. Rostov-Suzdal' was the main center of its formation. But the formation of the Great Russian nation had a distinctive feature in that the subsequent political and ethnic processes of the 14th-15th centuries were led not by the old feudal centers of Novgorod, Pskov, Ryazan' or Rostov, but rather by the city of Moscow, which had originated in the 12th Century. Its favorable location on the frontier of the ancient territories of two mighty tribal alliances (the Vyatiches and the Kriviches) and its swift economic development promoted the rise of Moscow.

The Belorussian nation formed in the lands of Polotsk, Minsk, Turov-Pinsk, and partially Smolensk, Volyn', and the Upper Dnepr region.

The formation of groups of lands and principalities that subsequently grew into the territories of the East Slavic peoples by no means weakened the ties among these groups. Just as during the time of the early feudal monarchy of Vladimir and Yaroslav, all the Russian lands were united by common economic, social and cultural processes.

The unification movements which engulfed the second half of the 12th and the 13th centuries continued to spread and grow stronger in later centuries. The result of these movements by all the people was the reunification of the Ukraine with Russia in 1654, when the fraternal peoples who had been forcefully disassociated by foreign aggressors were reunited.

Looking back through the centuries today, we study the role and significance of Kievan Rus' in the formation of historical progress of the three fraternal peoples, the Russian, Ukrainian and Belorussian with a special feeling.

We are proud today of our new historical community that arose under the banner of Great October and is called the Soviet people. This community, an indissoluble alliance of all the classes, social groups, nations, and nationalities of a developed socialist society, is demonstrating its great strength of unity and purposefulness. At the 26th Congress of the Ukrainian Communist Party, Comrade V. V. Shcherbitskiy, a member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and first secretary of the Central Committee of the Ukrainian Communist Party, emphasized: "In May 1982 we will celebrate a portentous date, the 1,500th anniversary of Kiev. Celebration of this event will unquestionably add another memorable page to the chronicle of the great friendship among the Russian, Belorussian and Ukrainian peoples and all the fraternal peoples of our country and will provide new impetus to work on patriotic and international indoctrination."

The glorious party of communists is leading the peoples of our country down the road of friendship and brotherhood. There never has been and never will be a force in the world that can shake our Leninist friendship, which has been cemented by joint labor and struggle.

11,176

CSO: 1800/214

REGIONAL

MUSLIM OBSERVANCES IN TURKMENISTAN ATTACKED

Ashkhabad SOVET TURKMENISTANY in Turkmen 10 Oct 81 p 2

[Article by T. Ylyasova, candidate of philological sciences: "We Must Put An End To Religious Vestiges"]

[Text] Educating a new man is one of the important measures in the transition to communism. This question was given special attention at the 26th CPSU Congress. Comrade L. I. Brezhnev, Secretary-General of the CC CPSU said:

"Much work stands before us in perfecting the socialist way of life and in rooting out and destroying those things which impede bringing a new man to perfection. This in itself is one of the component parts which is inseparable from party policy; as for the goal of this policy, it is the happiness and fortune of the Soviet peoples."

One of the fundamental things impeding bringing a new man to perfection is religious vestiges, because the new man must be free of religion in the full sense of the word. For this reason, in our country and in our republic serious propaganda is being conducted against religious vestiges and negative customs and traditions. Certainly the growth of science and technology is playing a large role in this question. The invention of all types of machinery, the growth of the role of the natural sciences and chemistry, the mastery of the expanses of outer space have attracted man's attention to the power of science. Thus, the number of religious believers is being sharply reduced.

Despite atheistic propaganda, there are still men among us entwined in the web of religion and shortsightedly practicing harmful traditions and celebrating religious holidays. Among the holidays that are being celebrated is the "feast of sacrifice" [Kurban Bayram]. There are many independent reasons for its celebration. In our opinion those celebrating the sacrifice are, fundamentally, unthinking young people. Such youths and girls generally are not thinking of the basic religious content of the sacrifice, but are interested in adorning themselves, putting on expensive clothes and going from party to party for 3 days without working. They give no thought to the fact that they are pointlessly wasting valuable time. They do not consider that there is no making up for lost time. At such times adults must sit down, talk to them and give them advice. But there are those adults among us who have been unable to break out of the spider web of religion and appreciate that the young are celebrating the religious holiday. This being the case, they are keeping some religious views.

Originally, said Karl Marx, "fear established religion." In earlier times in some tribes, men fearing natural phenomena sacrificed their children or even their great men as religious offerings. Later, it became acceptable to sacrifice animals instead. When the ancient Arabs traveled to Mecca, prior to the establishing of Islam, they killed a cow as a religious offering. Later, representatives of Islam made it obligatory to make a sacrifice at a certain time.

Even today, some people adhere to this religious vestige and make a religious offering by sacrificing an animal. It is known that making a sacrifice is especially widely practiced in Ashkhabad, especially on the outskirts. Why this takes place is the question. It results from the fact that atheistic education is weak among the population. Where atheistic education is conducted weakly, the celebration of religious traditions is practised.

A large group of women, do not work in factories or shops, are occupied with housework. As a result, they do not pay enough attention to cultural growth and religious influences are powerful among them. They influence each other and celebrate every kind of tradition. They are disturbing more than their own families when they make sacrifices; they also meet children of the enterprise and neighbors' children at the playground. The fathers and mothers of the children playing at the playground give no thought to the possibility that these children are being destroyed. As a result, possibilities for every kind of misfortune emerge.

School teachers are doing significant work by exposing the rules of religion. They must hold talks on this topic with children and parents, set up lectures on atheism, win over the participation of students and parents and have the students themselves make talks on the subject of atheism. It would be helpful for the class leader to call a joint meeting of students and parents and talk about the harm of religious holidays and about the view of our party and government on religion. Such discussions should not be alarming to teachers and parents. In fact, the school and family must play a major role in educating the young in the spirit of atheism. Thus, school and family must work together.

Teachers of chemistry, nature, history and literature, especially, can do a lot of work in this question. Literature teachers can give talks on the contents of works of past authors and poets which expose religious tradition, which deal with the content and growth of religious reaction, and can instill enthusiasm among the children to read such works. As for chemistry and nature teachers, they must turn religious omens into a lie by doing many kinds of experiments which expose religion. In order that the work done by teachers be effective, they must be well armed with the theory of Marxism-Leninism.

To educate the new man, a cultured man in the full meaning of the word, one of the most important duties of the day is strengthening atheistic education among the youth.

CSO: 1834/12

REGIONAL

TURKMEN ATHEISM LECTURES DESCRIBED

Ashkhabad SOVET TURKMENISTANY in Turkmen 16 Sep 81 p 2

[Article by B. Durdybaev, teacher at the Turkmen Polytechnic Institute: "We Are Giving The Young A Scientific-Atheistic Education"]

[Text] The 26th CPSU Congress stated the necessity to strengthen ideological and political education and especially to conduct this work well among some young. Comrade L. I. Brezhnev, Secretary-General of the CC CPSU said in his report at the Congress: "It is no secret that the knowledge and awareness among some young people is connected with political naivete and a lack of sufficient responsibility as far as professional preparation is concerned.... In other words, educational work must be strengthened."

One must perfect teaching and educating students according to the decrees of the 26th CPSU Congress. It is necessary to conduct all educational work seriously among the students. As in other VUZes, in forming the scientific-materialistic world-view among future specialists the course "The Fundamentals of Scientific Atheism" is taught and thoroughly studied, along with the history of the USSR, Marxist-Leninist philosophy, political economy and scientific communism. These make it possible to instill faith in these ideas and implacability towards bourgeois ideology and religion.

The professors and teachers collective of the institute are conducting related work in perfecting their ideational-theoretical levels and raising professional competence. Special attention is given to raising the quality of lectures. These questions are decided on at department meetings and councils of the social sciences department. Methodical assistance is worked out. In order to help students studying "The Fundamentals of Scientific Atheism", the methodical assistance consists of using local materials. There is also a program section for the young atheists' school within the methodical assistance prepared for those studying in the sociology department. Teachers in our department also participate in this work.

At the scientific-theoretical conference of some of the professors and teachers of the institute and the students, data relevant to the decrees of the 26th CPSU Congress and the 22^d Congress of the Turkmen CP on the obligations of the scientific-atheistic education for young people and on the use of local materials were heard. At the conference those studying at the young atheists' school under the sociology faculty spoke. Second course students A. Kirillina, Ya. Karimov, Y. Toplyev,

A. Nurmammedov and O. Ayberenova reported on the educational importance of the honorable traditions of Soviet students, the criticism of religion in Turkmen-Soviet literature, and the position of students in the struggle against harmful vestiges of the past. The recommendation was made to read these reports in auditoriums and to construction crews in the production training period.

A large group of students are studying at the 2-year school of young atheists under the sociology department. Here they are taking a special course in scientific atheism and in mastering the fundamentals of lecturing. These skills are organically connected to the study process. The school of young atheists cooperates closely with the profsoyuz and komsomol organizations of the VUZ.

Everyone studying at this school picks a topic on which to speak at a mass lecture. After the students have made a number of speeches in front of the workers, they receive an evaluation based on theory. Those receiving a high grade for skill are given a second degree called "lecturer-atheist."

Young people receiving this diploma, after leaving the institute, are able to use it by talking with people unable to break away from harmful vestiges of the past and in establishing various measures against harmful religious traditions.

By making use of materials from the 26th CPSU Congress and the 22nd Turkmen CP Congress, and by struggling to make a contribution to improving ideological, political, educational work and atheistic propaganda, our teaching component is trying especially to improve their own work. The teachers manifest much concern to make the content of ideological work especially up-to-date; as for its forms, they do not avoid confrontation with serious themes--the so-called 'related difficult questions'--and they make these forms worthy of the current demands and desires of Soviet youth. The growth in propaganda measures taken by the class enemy and his increased efforts to influence the mentality of the Soviet people by implanting religious views, in particular, is borne in mind.

This work is implemented both in the study process and in the students' free time. In conducting atheistic work among the students, special lectures, talks, question and answer evenings on the atheistic theme, talks on the institute radio network, photo montages, wall newspapers and the widely circulated INZHENER magazine are used.

Giving an atheistic education to youth is a multi-faceted process demanding a creative approach to the work from teachers and exchanges of experience in the practice of scientific atheism. The teachers are always concerned about forming a scientific-materialistic, atheistic world-view in the student youth, in teaching a communist perception of labor, and in raising their social-political and work efficiency. We consider this work our honorable duty and are trying to do this duty most effectively and with the highest quality.

CSO: 1834/11

REGIONAL

TURKMENS STRENGTHEN LAWS AGAINST THEFT

[Editorial Report] Ashkhabad SOVET TURKMENISTANY in Turkmen 18 September 1981 p 3 carries a 1,000-word article by R. Berdiev, TuSSR minister of internal affairs, describing changes in the TuSSR Criminal Code pertaining to the theft of private and state property. The changes are in Articles 90, 91, 155, 156 and 157.

CSO: 1834/1026

TURKMEN CONSUMER GOODS PRODUCTION LAGS

[Editorial Report] Ashkhabad SOVET TURKMENISTANY in Turkmen 30 September 1981 p 1 carries a 1,000-word lead editorial on the lagging production of consumer goods. It states that "In the last 8 months only 93.5 percent of the quota has been met" and adds that the "TuSSR Construction Ministry views the production of products for daily life as of secondary importance. Hence...they only fulfilled ...their quota by 50.7 percent." Because the Ministry of Local Industry is not automated, it is slow. The Forestry Ministry suffers from the same problem. Also, "little attention is given to broadening the assortment of goods available to the population."

CSO: 1834/1023

TURKMEN CATEGORIES MUSLIMS BY DEGREES OF BELIEF

[Editorial Report] Ashkhabad SOVET TURKMENISTANY in Turkmen 25 September 1981 p 2 carries a 1,200-word article by N. Kulyev, doctor of philosophical sciences, entitled "On the Interrelationship of Some Religious and Nationalistic Vestiges," in which he says that "in imperialism's ideological diversions against socialism one cannot forget its attempt to stimulate national antagonism and religious thought. Bourgeois ideologists try to show religious traditions as a national characteristic and national feelings and customs as religion." He categorizes religious believers by dividing them into four categories: 1) active believers; 2) doubters who are unwilling to admit their doubt; 3) disbelievers who participate in religious ceremonies; 4) atheists who practice religion for other reasons. About the latter he states that "there are enough of such people among the clergy." He also points out that "religious believers and nonbelievers are equal before the law."

CSO: 1834/1024

KAZAKH NATIONAL GAMES EXPRESS NATIONAL CULTURE

[Editorial Report] Alma-Ata BILIM ZHANE ENGBEK in Kazakh No 11, November 1981, carries on pages 19-20 a 1,700-word article by E. Saghyndyqov, published under the regular rubric "Readers Share Their Thoughts" and entitled "The Educational Significance of National Games." National games are a widespread form of education and are a means of imparting desired characteristics and forming moral habits. Among the Kazakhs such games are closely associated with past Kazakh heroes and leaders and express traditional cultural patterns and values. The author, who quotes numerous Soviet pedagogs to support his views, calls for more research into the pedagogical significance of the games from a Marxist-Leninist standpoint and increased effort to use them in Kazakh educational programs.

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KAZAKH OBLAST SOVIETS STRIVE TO MEET CONSUMER, CULTURAL NEEDS

[Editorial Report] Alma-Ata QAZAQSTAN KOMMUNISI in Kazakh No 11, November 1981 carries on pages 38-45 a 3,300-word article by Q. Zhumabekov, chairman of the Executive Committee of the Dzhezkazganskaya Oblast Soviet of People's Deputies, on what his and other local soviets of the oblast are doing to improve consumer and cultural services in their jurisdictions. The 26th CPSU Congress pointed out that raising the living standards of the Soviet people is a major goal of the 11th Five-Year Plan. Achieving this goal is, in turn, connected with meeting the cultural and domestic services needs of the people as fully as possible. Thus the party congress planned improvements in all areas of consumer and cultural services, including consumer goods supply, housing, cultural and recreational facilities.

This is a logical goal since an individual's creativity and productivity on the job is related to how well his domestic needs are met. Increased productivity and improved work quality, in turn, make possible more free time, more free time means a better rounded, more capable individual. Local soviets of people's deputies have major roles in these areas, with consumer good production a particularly key area. The author then examines the work of oblast and local soviets in Dzhezkazganskaya Oblast with respect to consumer and cultural services, noting the major achievements in an oblast that is but 8 years old. Problem areas are construction bottlenecks, food supply and food services, communications and transportation and difficulties in training cultural workers.

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KAZAKH MONUMENTS PRESERVATION SOCIETY STRIVES TO SAVE CULTURAL HERITAGE

[Editorial Report] Alma-Ata ZHULDYZ in Kazakh No 11, November 1981 carries on pages 195-201 a 4,700-word article by Anvar Alimzhanov, chairman of the Central Council of the KaSSR Society for the Protection of Historical and Cultural Monuments, on past achievements and current work of his society published under the

regular rubric "Art and Science." He notes that we live in times when man's survival is at stake due to the threat of nuclear war. Just as writers, historians and artists have always devoted attention to recalling the past heroism and cultural traditions of their peoples in times of crisis, the work of the KaSSR Society for the Protection of Historical and Cultural Monuments forms part of this effort, especially in view of L. I. Brezhnev's call for special attention to history and cultural legacies in his report to the 26th Party Congress. The society's work was favorably evaluated at the 15th Kazakh CP Congress; the KaSSR Council of Ministers undertook various resolutions on improving and strengthening the society's work in order to enhance the connection between the past and present and to promote friendship and national pride.

The author reviews current activities of his society in archaeology: the opening and expansion of museums and museum collections; the discovery or preservation of architectural monuments; the propagandization of the past, particularly in schools; cooperation with other, similar organizations, and maintaining archives. Alimzhanov complains of a lack of resources adequate to the enormity of the society's tasks, particularly in terms of the collection, study and storage of archaeological artifacts. He also decries a lack of attention in Russian schools in Kazakhstan to the Kazakh past, Kazakh cultural heritage and Kazakh language and notes that although special textbooks exist for use in the Russian schools for instruction in these areas, they are seldom used. He warns against a worship of technocracy that produces poorly rounded individuals that are "robots" rather than constructive citizens. In this context Alimzhanov seems to suggest that constitutional guarantees to national minorities are not being met in the USSR.

He also laments the general disrespect for past monuments--the "pot hunting" and conscious destruction. The oblasts with a majority Russian population are singled out for castigation in this regard. The author is also concerned about the collection of Kazakh manuscripts and similar local documentary materials by national Soviet (i.e. Russian) organizations when, he suggests, this might be done more properly by his society (thereby keeping Kazakh historical materials in Kazakhstan).

Alimzhanov also notes that the legacy of the past may be expressed in environmental terms. He stresses the cultural importance of the Aral Sea and doubts that the Siberian Rivers Project alone will save it. The author ends by condemning Chinese "cartographic" expansionism (i.e. efforts by Chinese archaeologists and their Western allies such as William Watson to show a Chinese cultural dominance in Turkestan and Siberia in ancient times), stressing the indigenous character of south Siberian and Turkestanian culture and calling for more resources to further the preservational and propagandistic efforts of his society, especially in connection with current interest in the 250th anniversary of the Voluntary Incorporation of the Kazakhs with Russia.

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